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WEEKLY RECAP

Appropriations The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies passed its appropriations bill for FY2020. It will be voted on before the full committee in coming weeks.

Hearings

May 14th The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on mineral security. Issues discussed included the Office of Fossil Energy establishing environmentally-responsible practices for mineral separation. More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=559FE490-CA2A-4A56-9C30-F5ED5B0C7780"](https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=559FE490-CA2A-4A56-9C30-F5ED5B0C7780)].

May 15th The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing, “Protecting Americans at Risk of PFAS Contamination and Exposure.” The committee heard testimony from 6 witnesses and discussed 13 pieces of legislation. More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://energycommerce.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-on-protecting-americans-at-risk-of-pfas-contamination-exposure"](https://energycommerce.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-on-protecting-americans-at-risk-of-pfas-contamination-exposure)]

May 15th The House Ways and Means held a hearing, “The Economic and Health Consequences of Climate Change.” More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://waysandmeans.house.gov/legislation/hearings/economic-and-health-consequences-climate-change"](https://waysandmeans.house.gov/legislation/hearings/economic-and-health-consequences-climate-change)]

May 15th The House Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing, “Examining the Impacts of Climate Change on Public Lands Recreation.” More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-impacts-of-climate-change-on-public-lands-recreation"](https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-impacts-of-climate-change-on-public-lands-recreation)]

May 15th The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held their markup of their appropriations bill for FY2020.

Meetings



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May 13th Administrator Wheeler traveled to Minden, West Virginia, for an event to update the NPL with Governor Justice, Senator Capito, and Rep. Carol Miller

May 14th Administrator Wheeler and OCIR met with Representatives Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01) and Dan Kildee (MI-05).

May 14th Administrator Wheeler spoke over the phone with Senator Barrasso (R-WY).

May 14th OCIR held a phone call with USDA and House Committee on Agriculture.

May 15th Administrator Wheeler spoke over the phone with Senator Ernst (R-IA).

May 15th OCIR had a phone call with Representative Josh Gottheimer (NJ-05) on the Ringwood Mines superfund site.

May 15th Administrator Wheeler and OCIR met with Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS), Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), and Army Assistant Secretary RD James.

May 16th Administrator Wheeler spoke with Ranking Member Shimkus (R-IL) re. ethanol.

LOOK-A-HEAD

May 21st The House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change will hold a hearing "Undermining Mercury Protection: EPA Endangers Human Health and the Environment." More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://energycommerce.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-on-undermining-mercury-protections-epa-endangers-human-health"](https://energycommerce.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-on-undermining-mercury-protections-epa-endangers-human-health)].

May 21st The Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a hearing, "Climate Change and the Agriculture Sector." More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/hearings/climate-change-and-the-agriculture-sector"](https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/hearings/climate-change-and-the-agriculture-sector)]

May 22nd Barry Breen from the Office of Land and Emergency Management and Benita Best-Wong from the Office of Water will testify before the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. They will discuss the President's budget proposal for FY2020. Information on the hearing is available [[HYPERLINK "https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/water-resources-and-](https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/water-resources-and-)



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environment-subcommittee-hearing-policies-recommendations-and-impacts-of-the-presidents-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request"].

May 22nd The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works will hold a hearing, "Examining Legislation to Address the Risks Associated with Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)." More information is available [[HYPERLINK "https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=7F34804C-952F-4F16-BDE3-C60DBD57F5E3"](https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=7F34804C-952F-4F16-BDE3-C60DBD57F5E3)]

STORIES OF INTEREST

CONGRESS:

- Rep. Tom Reed: The First Step to solving climate change is a simple one [[HYPERLINK "https://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/443896-first-step-toward-fighting-climate-change-is-a-simple"](https://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/443896-first-step-toward-fighting-climate-change-is-a-simple)]
- New CEO push on climate change policy [[HYPERLINK "https://www.axios.com/new-ceo-push-climate-change-policy-0fe0e915-5e83-4978-a62f-19458add8d1e.html"](https://www.axios.com/new-ceo-push-climate-change-policy-0fe0e915-5e83-4978-a62f-19458add8d1e.html)]

INTERGOV:

- *The Washington Post: The Energy 202:* EPA finally added West Virginia site plagued by chemical dumping to priority cleanup list [[HYPERLINK "https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/05/14/the-energy-202-epa-finally-added-west-virginia-site-plagued-by-chemical-dumping-to-priority-cleanup-list/5cd9c09c1ad2e544f001dcfa/?utm_term=.c8df170d385f"](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-energy-202/2019/05/14/the-energy-202-epa-finally-added-west-virginia-site-plagued-by-chemical-dumping-to-priority-cleanup-list/5cd9c09c1ad2e544f001dcfa/?utm_term=.c8df170d385f)]
- *Charleston Gazette-Mail:* Minden added to EPA's Superfund National Priorities List: [[HYPERLINK "https://www.wvgazettemail.com/news/health/minden-added-to-epa-s-superfund-national-priorities-list/article_999a460d-4c30-5e73-a2ef-9ce8a38599c7.html"](https://www.wvgazettemail.com/news/health/minden-added-to-epa-s-superfund-national-priorities-list/article_999a460d-4c30-5e73-a2ef-9ce8a38599c7.html)]
- *The Register-Herald:* EPA: Minden a "priority" [[HYPERLINK "https://www.register-herald.com/news/epa-minden-a-priority/article_fda5654c-cf82-596a-9b15-1bb78e6af047.html"](https://www.register-herald.com/news/epa-minden-a-priority/article_fda5654c-cf82-596a-9b15-1bb78e6af047.html)]
- *News radio 1020 KDKA:* Decision On Summer Gas In Allegheny Co. To Be Expedited By EPA [[HYPERLINK "https://kdkaradio.radio.com/articles/decision-summer-gas-allegheny-co-be-expedited-epa"](https://kdkaradio.radio.com/articles/decision-summer-gas-allegheny-co-be-expedited-epa)]
- *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:* EPA says it will expedite review of summer gas in Allegheny County [[HYPERLINK "https://www.post-gazette.com/news/transportation/2019/05/16/EPA-review-of-summer-gas-in-Allegheny-County-pollution/stories/201905160122"](https://www.post-gazette.com/news/transportation/2019/05/16/EPA-review-of-summer-gas-in-Allegheny-County-pollution/stories/201905160122)]
- *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:* Clearing the air on summer gas in Allegheny County [[HYPERLINK "https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2019/05/17/Clearing-the-air-on-summer-gas-in-Allegheny-County/stories/201905140113"](https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2019/05/17/Clearing-the-air-on-summer-gas-in-Allegheny-County/stories/201905140113)]
- *News and Tribune:* EPA adds Cliff Drive plume to Superfund list [[HYPERLINK "https://www.newsandtribune.com/indiana/news/epa-adds-cliff-drive-plume-to-superfund-list/article_f3b47c3d-9588-5e0a-9882-8ae37412e28d.html"](https://www.newsandtribune.com/indiana/news/epa-adds-cliff-drive-plume-to-superfund-list/article_f3b47c3d-9588-5e0a-9882-8ae37412e28d.html)]



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- *Lexology*: EPA Adds Seven Sites to the Superfund National Priorities List [HYPERLINK "<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5fe12546-0b7e-4ece-970d-408821ae6003>"]
- *Water & Wastes Digest*: EPA ADDS FORMER VALVE PLANT TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST [HYPERLINK "<https://www.wwdmag.com/valves/epa-adds-former-valve-plant-national-priorities-list>"]